

Application Serial No: 09/977,900
In reply to Office Communication of 7 December 2005

Attorney Docket No. 80072

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 21-33 are currently in the application. Claims 21-33 stand rejected, and no claims are allowed. By this response, claim 33 is amended, and new claim 34 is added.

The Examiner rejected claims 21-27 and 30-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bookspan, Mills, Liang, and Suzuki.

The Examiner rejected claims 28, 29, 32 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bookspan, Mills, Liang, Suzuki, and Hogle.

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections in view of the amendments and the arguments provided below.

Applicant has amended claim 33 because it incorrectly referred to parent claim 32 as being a method claim when it is an apparatus or system.

Concerning the Examiner's rejection of claims 21-27 and 30-31, Applicant respectfully suggests that Liang does not teach nor make obvious Applicant's step of installing at least two different sets of files to be played for said coordinated presentation on each of said plurality of computers. The text cited by the Examiner, Liang at Col. 6, lines 2-11, does not provide installation at least two different sets of files to be played for said coordinated presentation on each of said plurality of computers. Rather, it provides that a network

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provides streaming data which is interpreted on a client computer. Liang at Col. 7, lines 19-31, teaches that a network provides the data to the client computer via a streaming data protocol. Upon receiving the data, Liang teaches that it is decoded and decompressed, then it is output and displayed. See Col. 7, lines 32-55. Liang does not disclose any step that one could construe as "installing" because Liang does not teach permanent storage of the group of files.

In claims 21-27, Applicant's step of installing at least two sets of files and the step of providing at least one scenario file require that the files be available when required by the scenario file. Claim 30 specifies that the presentation display files are loaded in a local storage of each computer. This is to insure optimal performance at available data flow volumes as disclosed in the specification at page 4, lines 9-12. Local storage of files has other well known benefits such as better synchronization, fewer network resources required, and higher reliability.

Concerning the Examiner's use of Suzuki to show Applicant's step of providing at least one scenario file on each of said plurality of computers, Applicant suggests that teaching use of a single scenario file on a single computer does not teach multiple different scenario files loaded on a system of computers having different sets of presentation files as claimed

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by Applicant. The single scenario file taught by Suzuki would not give a coordinated presentation on different computers. Neither Liang nor any of the other prior art teach the use of multiple different scenario files as claimed by the Applicant.

Furthermore, Applicant respectfully suggests that one of ordinary skill in the art could not combine Liang with Suzuki to give different coordinated displays on at least two of a plurality of computers. Suzuki teaches controlling a multimedia presentation of various kinds of files in accordance with a scenario file having display times and duration. The files used by Suzuki are clearly available when required by the scenario manager. Liang only uses content delivered over a network in coordination with other clients. As above mentioned above, Liang has no provision for installing the sets of files before the step of playing. Applicant suggests that the teachings of Liang cannot be combined with those of Suzuki because Liang does not provide available content on the computers. One of ordinary skill in the art could not arbitrate between the display times and durations taught by Suzuki and the real-time content taught by Liang. In view of the arguments provided above, Applicant respectfully suggests that claims 21-27 and 30-31 should be allowable over the prior art.

Applicant has further distinguished Liang in new claim 34, dependent on claim 21, which limits Applicant's invention to the

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case when the files are loaded before the step of playing. This new claim provides additional limitations if the Examiner finds that Applicant's step of providing a scenario file is insufficient to distinguish Liang. The multimedia scene taught by Liang is not installed prior to playing and this claim provides such a limitation in order to explicitly overcome Liang. Consideration and allowance of this claim is respectfully requested.

Concerning the Examiner's rejection of claims 28-29 and 32-33, Applicant suggests that this rejection is overcome by the same arguments as those provided above concerning claims 21-27 and 30-31. In summary, Liang does not teach installation of different sets of files on different computers, and Suzuki does not teach the provision of different scenario files on different computers. Lastly, Liang and Suzuki cannot be combined by one of ordinary skill in the art. It is suggested that claims 28, 29, 32 and 33 should be allowable over the prior art.

Applicant respectfully suggests in view of these remarks that all grounds for rejection and objection have been removed by the foregoing amendment. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are therefore earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone James M. Kasischke, Attorney for Applicant, at 401-832-4736 if, in the opinion of

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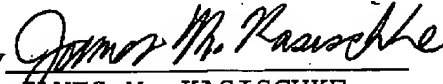
the Examiner, such a telephone call would serve to expedite the prosecution of the subject patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

BRUCE W. STEVENS

7 March 2006

By



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